

WASHINGTON.

Important Bill Regulating the Presidential Succession.

Effect of General Butler's Speech Before the Court of Impeachment.

The New Jersey Legislature and the Constitutional Amendment.

The Resolutions Withdrawing the Assent of the State Presented to the House.

The Radicals Indignant and the Resolutions Ordered to be Sent Back to the Legislature.

The Tax Repeal Bill as Passed by the Senate.

Promulgation of the Order Assigning General Hancock to the Military Division of the Atlantic.

Important Bill Regulating the Presidential Succession.

The bill introduced to-day by Mr. Churchill, of New York, is looked upon by all parties as of great importance, in view of the complications which have arisen in the present difficulties that have arisen in the case of the death of the President and Vice President. The act of 1872 provides that in case of the death of the President and Vice President, the President of the Senate pro tempore, and next the Speaker of the House of Representatives, shall succeed. The bill of Mr. Churchill extends the succession to the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court. Also some serious doubts have arisen as to the necessity of the Secretary of State ordering an election next fall for President in the event of the death of the President and Vice President. The bill of Mr. Churchill extends the succession to the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court. Also some serious doubts have arisen as to the necessity of the Secretary of State ordering an election next fall for President in the event of the death of the President and Vice President.

General Butler's Speech Before the High Court of Impeachment.

General Butler's opening speech in the all-absorbing topic this evening. For three mortal hours he bored the High Court of Impeachment with a harangue involving a wide range of subject which in the general run had very little to do with the immediate question under consideration. The speech is spoken of, even by the admirers of Mr. Butler, as an excessively dull and feeble effort, far short of the expectations placed upon it. Mr. Butler read the formidable document, which covered thirty-eight printed pages, in a tone and gesture which would rather suggest mimicry than earnestness. Mr. Butler's voice in the strangest ever mortal speaker saluted the public ear with. It resembles in its intonations the combined and varied notes of a cracked barrel organ and a chorus of bull terriers in a street fight—now sharp and snarling, and again wheezy and rasping. Anybody who has ever seen and heard the manager of a travelling peep show describing to a gaping audience of country bumpkins the picture which illustrates the passage of the Alps by Napoleon with a cotton umbrella under his left arm will be reminded irresistibly of that individual by hearing Butler on impeachment. The bottled orator read his speech and made about as much impression on his audience as he did on Fort Fisher. Towards three o'clock a large number of the spectators left, evidently exhausted and disappointed, and commenting upon the effort in not complimentary epithets. The general opinion of those interested in the trial is that if the speeches which follow on the part of the Board of Managers are as impotent as the prosecution may well give up the case at once. It is expected Mr. Butler's effort will get a scathing overhauling from the counsel on the other side, and it is considered its baldness will be pretty well exposed. Certainly impeachment starts under very unfavorable circumstances.

The Reported Turkish Massacres in Crete.

The despatch forwarded from here last evening by the Associated Press relative to Turkish massacres of married women and old men in Crete is pronounced by the best official authority here as an unmitigated fabrication. It is believed to be a desperate effort on the part of certain persons here to excite sympathy of a particular character. The despatch goes minutely and elaborately into the narrative of atrocities of a more diabolical nature than any the savages of the Plains have ever been guilty of. On the face of it it looks suspicious.

Heavy Democratic Gain in Maine.

The President received a telegraphic dispatch this afternoon from Ellsworth, Hancock county, Me., informing him that the election in that town resulted in a net gain to the democrats of about three hundred. The President held his fourth levee this evening. The parlors of the Executive Mansion were crowded throughout the evening by a very distinguished and prominent assemblage, composed mainly of the more prominent officers of the government, civil, military and naval, together with nearly all the leading foreign representatives and a throng of beautiful ladies. The President appeared in excellent spirits, and conversed lightly and pleasantly with the friends surrounding him. General Hancock appeared early in the evening, and formed one of the principal centers of attraction.

Hancock's Appointment to Command the Military Division of the Atlantic.

The following is the order appointing General Hancock to the command of the new military division: GENERAL ORDERS NO. 17. HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY. ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE. WASHINGTON, March 30, 1868. By direction of the President of the United States, Major General W. S. Hancock is relieved from command of the Fifth Military District and assigned to the command of the Military Division of the Atlantic, created by General Orders No. 10 of February 12, 1868. GENERAL GRANT. E. D. TOWNSEND, A. G. General Hancock arrived here from his visit to New Haven, Conn., this morning. At half-past ten o'clock he visited the President. It is expected he will at once assume the command of the Military Division of the Atlantic, arrange his staff and select a building for headquarters.

The Law for the Government of the Southern States.

Secretary Stanton has issued, in the form of a general order, the act of Congress amendatory of the act passed on March 21, 1867, to provide for the more efficient government of the rebel States. It is accompanied by a note by the Department of State saying, "The foregoing act having been presented to the President for his approval, and not having been returned by him within the time constitutionally prescribed, had become a law without his approval." Progress of the Work on the Pacific Railroad. A Washington despatch to the Evening Telegram says: "The Secretary of the Interior has just received the report of the government commissioners on the second section of twenty miles of the Sioux City and Pacific Railroad, extending from the initial point in Sioux City to the twentieth mile post south of it. Eighteen miles and three-quarters of this section is in a straight line. There

is one Howe truss bridge of one hundred and sixty feet span over the Floyd river, and twenty bridges supported by trestles on filling sixteen feet from centre to centre, having an aggregate length of 2,414 feet. The bridge on the first mile measure in the aggregate is 5,501 feet, and on the second mile there is a permanent water station. A large and very commodious depot was built in Sioux City, and arrangements are being made for erecting a permanent engine house. Materials are also being collected for large machine and repair shops at some convenient point along the road. The commissioners finding the section in every respect equal to a first class railroad, recommended that it be accepted, and on the 27th inst. the section was accepted by the President and the bonds and patents due the company ordered to be issued.

THE FORTIETH CONGRESS.

Second Session.

SENATE.

WASHINGTON, March 30, 1868.

The Senate reassembled at eleven o'clock. The Chaplain asked a blessing upon the Senators, the Executive, the Ministers of State, the officers and privates of the army, and all to whom public trusts are committed or who have assumed responsibilities in reference to the nation, especially in regard to the great trial. He prayed that God would give grace to his servant presiding over this High Court, wisdom to those managing this important case, and a spirit of justice and righteousness to those with whom rests the issue.

Mr. EDMUNDS, (rep. of Vt.), called up the bill to regulate appeals to the Court of Claims, which was amended and postponed until to-morrow.

MR. THURMELL, (rep. of Ill.), called up the bill pending on the adjournment on Saturday to relieve Rodrick R. Butler, of Tennessee, from political disabilities. The question was on Mr. Buckalew's amendment to strike out the word "constitution" from the clause proposing to relieve the disabilities imposed by the constitution and reconstruction laws.

Mr. BUCKALEW, (dem. of Pa.), resumed the floor. He argued that the reconstruction laws having no application to Tennessee, Mr. Butler could not properly be relieved from the disabilities imposed by the act of 1867.

He quoted the testimony taken in behalf of Mr. Butler, and then proceeded to read a long statement that he had never rendered any actual military service.

At ten minutes to twelve Mr. Buckalew gave way at the suggestion of Mr. SHERMAN, (rep. of Ohio), who presented the report of the Committee of Conference by which the Senate had agreed to relieve certain manufacturers from internal tax.

Mr. HENDRICKS, (dem. of Ind.), moved that the report be laid over and printed.

Mr. SHERMAN, (rep. of Ohio), said that he had nothing objectionable to the Senate had been withdrawn from the bill, so important to the country, and he would not interrupt the reading of the report.

Several Senators opposed acting on the report immediately, and Mr. Sherman consented to have it go over, giving notice that he would press it as early as possible.

Mr. HOWE, (rep. of Wis.), explained that he had only learned this morning that he had been appointed to the Senate, and he had therefore signed the report.

Mr. SHERMAN said he, as Chairman, had misapprehended the amendment of the Committee and had therefore, notified Mr. Howard instead of Mr. Howe.

Mr. Hendricks' motion was modified so as to order the report to be laid over and printed.

At half-past twelve o'clock the President pro tem. vacated the chair, and the Senate assumed the functions of a Court of Impeachment for the trial of the President.

After the adjournment of the Court of Impeachment the President pro tem. (Mr. Wade) called the Senate to order.

CONSIDERATION OF THE MANUFACTURERS' BILL RESUMED.

On motion of Mr. SHERMAN the Senate again took up the report of the Committee of Conference on the bill relative to exempting certain manufacturers from internal tax.

Mr. HOWE, (rep. of Wis.), asked the chairman of the committee (Mr. Sherman) why they had exempted flour and lumber?

Mr. SHERMAN replied that there was no reason in his opinion why these articles should not pay the tax. To say that flour could not bear a tax of two cents a barrel was a species of humbug; but he had yielded rather than permit the bill to pass.

He explained the various changes in the amendments in reply to queries from Messrs. Hendricks, Frelinghuysen and Mr. Morrill.

Mr. MORRILL, (rep. of Vt.), expressed surprise that the Senator should call it humbug to exempt lumber and flour from the tax.

It would be a humbug to tax them now.

Mr. SHERMAN retorted that an equally strong argument could be made for exempting lumber and flour from the tax.

They knew that lumber was consumed mostly by the rich.

Mr. MORRILL said it was desirable to exempt lumber from the tax, but that a very little profit was made on flour.

Mr. GRIMES said the Senator from Vermont (Mr. Morrill) had repeated the same old story over and over again last year against the tariff on exported lumber. The lumbermen and millers were among the richest men in the country, and this would simply place a burden upon the shoulders of the poor.

Mr. CONNELL, (rep. of Cal.), denied that two or three dollars of tariff were added to the prices of flour.

Mr. GRIMES said it was in his section.

Mr. CONNELL, (rep. of N. Y.), condemned the proceeding of the Senator from Vermont as an abuse of the House on any previous one. The Attorney General would act upon the representations of the District Attorney, the very officer against whose malfeasance the bill was introduced.

Mr. CONNELL said that the bill was introduced by the Secretary of the Treasury and his subordinates. He alluded to the New York system of requiring notice of the grant of a license to sell liquor to be heard and reasons shown. He feared they would be hoisted with their own petard in this allowing to be done by some clerk of the Treasury Department in a closed room, and then to be brought to a court. They should keep in the proper channels of justice. He did not feel like moving to send this resolution to the House, but he would take it as a precedent and that it would be arranged better in a subsequent bill.

Mr. HOWE, (rep. of Mich.), reminded the Senator that it was always held in the power of District Attorney to enter *note prosequi* and discontinue a case, which was one of the greatest sources of corruption and abuse under the administration of our laws.

Mr. CONNELL asked whether the Attorney General was not likely to be influenced by the representations of the District Attorney as a court would be.

Mr. HOWARD replied that the court had nothing to do with it. The District Attorney had the power to enter *note prosequi* and discontinue a case, and if he did not, it was generally influenced by the District Attorney.

Mr. MORRIS, (rep. of Ind.), said this did not change the fact that the bill was introduced by the District Attorney.

In addition, the supervision of the Attorney General and the Secretary of the Treasury. He, as a member of the House, was not likely to be influenced by the representations of the District Attorney as a court would be.

Mr. CONNELL dissented, holding that this allowed the District Attorney to be decided by the House of Representatives, but as it was not *ex parte* and *ad extra* he supposed they must acquiesce.

Mr. HOWE, (rep. of Ind.), said he would vote against the report because of the fifth and last section. He claimed that its effect would be to water the responsibility until it was lost in the case of the principal centers of attraction.

He also held that public opinion by both line and imprisonment would be lost.

The report was then agreed to, and at five minutes past five o'clock the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WASHINGTON, March 30, 1868.

Mr. DAVIS, (rep. of Mass.), presented a petition of John Hamlin, a son and other citizens of Hampton, N. H., for the removal of the oppressive tax on petroleum.

ASSISTANT ENGINEERS IN THE NAVAL ACADEMY.

Under the call of States for bills and joint resolutions Mr. ELIOT, (rep. of Mass.), introduced a bill relating to third assistant engineers in the Naval Academy, which was referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs.

THE SHIPPING INTEREST.

Mr. ELIOT also presented a memorial of Charles G. Nazaro, President, and other officers of the Board of Trade, and F. W. Lincoln, N. Thomas Lamb and eighty-eight other merchants and citizens of Boston, praying for legislation in aid of the shipping and commerce of the United States, which was referred to the Committee on Commerce.

VACANCIES IN THE OFFICES OF PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT.

Mr. CHURCHILL, (rep. of N. Y.), introduced a bill to amend the act of March 1, 1872, relative to vacancies in the offices of President and Vice President of the United States, which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

PENSIONS.

Mr. CHURCHILL introduced a bill supplementary to the act of March 3, 1867, relative to pensions, which was referred to the Committee on Invalid Pensions.

NEW JERSEY AND THE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT.

Mr. HAINES, (dem. of N. J.), presented a joint resolution

intending to withdrawing the consent of the State of New Jersey to the proposed amendment of the constitution of the United States.

Mr. STANLEY, (dem. of Wis.), called for the reading of the document.

After the Clerk had commenced the reading Mr. WASHBURN, (rep. of Ill.), asked the Speaker whether he would order the document to be returned to the New Jersey Legislature?

The Speaker replied that it was not his duty to return the document to the New Jersey Legislature.

Mr. WASHBURN said that if it were in order he would move that the document be returned to the New Jersey Legislature.

The Speaker replied that it was not his duty to return the document to the New Jersey Legislature.

The Clerk resumed the reading, and was again interrupted by Mr. ELIOT, who said he would move that the document be returned to the New Jersey Legislature.

Mr. WASHBURN said the reading might as well be continued now, as the time for going over will be continued now.

Mr. PILL, (rep. of Mo.), let the document be read, and objected to its being returned.

Mr. WASHBURN gave notice that he would make a motion to suspend the rules in order that the document might be returned to the New Jersey Legislature.

DEPARTURE FOR THE SENATE CHAMBER.

The SPEAKER, at half-past twelve, suspended the proceedings and announced that, in accordance with the resolution of the House, the Committee of the Whole House, and headed by its Chairman, Mr. Washburn, of Illinois, and accompanied by Mr. McCreary, of Ohio, and Mr. McCreary, of Ohio, would attend the Managers to the bar of the Senate.

The order was called out.

RETURN FROM THE SENATE CHAMBER.

The House reassembled at twenty minutes past four o'clock, when Mr. Washburn, of Illinois, reported that the Committee of the Whole House, and headed by its Chairman, Mr. Washburn, of Illinois, and accompanied by Mr. McCreary, of Ohio, and Mr. McCreary, of Ohio, would attend the Managers to the bar of the Senate.

The order was called out.

Mr. WASHBURN said the report would be entered on the journal, and the gentleman from Illinois had any suggestion to make as to the hour of meeting to-morrow.

Mr. WASHBURN suggested that the House should meet at a quarter before twelve, so as to give time enough to read the journal.

Mr. HAINES, (rep. of Mass.), suggested that the House should meet at a quarter before twelve, so as to give time enough to read the journal.

Mr. SCHENCK, (rep. of Ohio), said that the conference committee on the bill relating to manufacturers from taxation had been made to the Senate, and that the report had been made to the Senate and that he had been informed by the chairman of the Finance Committee that the Senate would take up the report this evening, and he would therefore take up the report this evening.

Mr. SCHENCK said that he would move to suspend the rules in order that the House might take up the report this evening.

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